

THE Tuzla Times

ublished for the airmen of the 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group. Tuzla Air Base, Bosnia-Herzegovina



Volume 2, Issue 26

"The Wings of Task Force Eagle"

une 27 1007

Bunker exercise takes place Sunday

by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

401st Expeditionary Air Base Group
Public Affairs

They say the third time is a charm and members of the 401 st Expeditionary Air Base Group are going to find out. The twice-postponed bunker exercise is now scheduled for Sunday.

The Air Force-only exercise is scheduled to last from noon to 3 p.m. with the treat levels increasing before the "attack" actually hits, according to Tech. Sgt. Dave Clippert, the 401st EABG disaster preparedness NCO.

"We plan to be in threat level II, which includes the kevlar helmet, flak vest and load bearing equipment," he said.

The exercise will test Base Recovery After Attack, self-aid and buddy care and accountability procedures.

"We want to see how people would react if this was a real-world situation," said Clippert.

While unexploded ordnance could be part of the scenario, people are reminded to stay on the "hard-pack" even during the recovery portion after an attack.



Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

(clockwise from left) Tech. Sgt. Ed Datar, Senior Airmen Dave Isaacs, Paul Moore, Robert Schulte and Joe Mendoza all help build a bunker in the Tuzla Air Force Village. The bunker will be used in Sunday's exercise.

"We don't want anyone taking unnecessary risks at any time," said Clippert, "especially not during an exercise."

In addition, people should remember that once the exercise kicks off, the alternate command post can be reached via radio on channel No. 1 and that the "all clear" is

given after an attack, not to end the exercise.

"There are exercise procedures in binders in each work center," said Maj. Ricard Smith, the group's vice commander. "If everyone reviews those beforehand, we shouldn't have any problems."

Visiting the troops



Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

Maj. Gen. Richard C. Marr, commander of the Air Mobility Warfare Center, and Brig. Gen. William Welser III, commander of the Tanker Airlift Control Center, (not pictured) spent Monday night in Tuzla. Here Master Sgt. Victor Vogliardo, 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group Logistics Squadron, talks with Marr before the generals left Tuesday.

Inside:

Award winners

The monthly award winners were announced Sunday at Commander's Call. Who took the top performer award in each area?...Page 3.

Top dogs

Who can claim to build the most sandbags on Tuzla Air Base? Find out the results of last weekend's competition...Page 4.

Rest, relaxation

The group took an afternoon of rest and relaxation Sunday for the monthly barbecue. Volleyball games and water fights topped the entertainment...Page 7.

Byrd's Nest

Pass program

Col. Byrd,

We have a question concerning the four-day pass. Why couldn't we depart Tuzla on a Thursday afternoon or evening on the proposed last C-130?

The reason being, is on June 13, the C-130 was scheduled for 9 a.m. and got delayed until 11:20 a.m. so all the people had to kill a half-a-day plus, once you arrive in Germany, it's already 2 or 3 in the afternoon, so technically, a day is already gone. Then, you have to be at the passenger terminal around 10 a.m. Monday.

The four days really mean a lot to people here and it would be nice to get as much use as possible out of the four days.

I know this might seem like a small problem, but I think it would greatly enhance morale.

Thank you for your time.

Thanks for the question conerning the Pass Program. In the next week or so, we will have all of our policy letters published concerning the major programs for the 401 Group. The Pass Policy will be one of those letters.

The Commander Authorized Pass is a way to reward dedication and hard work for our people. Reference AFI 36-3003, "the commander is authorized to award special passes for 3 or 4 day periods only for special occasions or circumstances, such as special recognition or compensatory time off."

As such, a pass is not an entiltement, like a formal R&R program, it is a special recognition program given at the discretion of the commander.

We have looked at your suggestion and do not feel like it is the right thing to do. One of the concerns that we have is that not everyone completes their scheduled work/shift in time to be able to leave on the last plane Thursday. Instead, we ask that if circumstances such as the ones that you have described above occur again, immediately contact your supervisor. Your supervisor should then work with the Squadron or Flight commander and get with me to adjust the time that we expect you to return from the pass.

Anyone who has a question or concern can submit it to the Byrd's Nest.

The box is located near Tent No. 28 in Tuzla's Air Force Village.

Col. Kenneth A. Byrd, 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group commander, will answer the questions and responses will be printed in the next Tuzla Times.

We will work with the members of the 401st Group to keep this program as meaningful as possible. We will continue to offer it as a reward for the dedication and hard work of our people.

BBQ rules

Recently a rule was made to discontinue any future barbecues within the confines of Air Force city. I was told that the reason we are no longer allowed to have barbecues was to keep peace with the Army because they aren't permitted to have them. I walk to Club 21 nearly everyday and have seen several barbecues going on in Army tent city.

I am confused with the change and I do not understand why we are not permitted to have barbecues when the Army has them daily.

In addition, June 18 the supply people held a barbecue right outside their duty tent.

So now I am wondering exactly who the new rules apply to.

It appears that Air Traffic is once again being singled out and has stricter rules to abide by.

The supply tent is located right next to the Army convoy gathering area. So it seems that the new plan to keep our barbecues secret from them was blatantly ignored.

What is the new policy regarding bar-

See QUESTION, Page 6





Senior Airman Michael Archuleta

Hometown: Cortez, Colo.

Age: 28

Home unit/base: 31st Munitions Squadron, Camp Darby, Italy

Time in service: 7 and one-half years

Time at Tuzla: 3 months

Deployed mission: mechanic

Hobbies: golf

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? retired

What do you like most about Tuzla? the guys I work with

What do you like least about Tuzla? no golf course



The Tuzla Times

Col. Kenneth A. Byrd, Commander SrA. Jennifer Westcott, Public affairs chief

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for overseas members of the U.S. military services. Contents of *The Tuzla Times* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. government, DOD, or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group Public Affairs chief. All photographs and images are Air Force unless otherwise indicated.

Send suggestions, story ideas and story/photo submissions to the public affairs office in the control tower building or via e-mail at 4100 GP(P)/PUBLIC AFFAIRS.



Winners announced under new program

Top Performer

Staff Sgt.

John

Robbins

weather squadron







Senior
Airman
Adam
Hutchinson
logistics squadron

Top Performer



Senior
Airman
Duane
Brown
operations squadron

Top Performer

Airman
James
Robbins
security police

flight

Top Performer



Top Performer

Tech. Sgt.
Gary
Schafer
aeromedical flight



Top Performer

. Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott



Look Sharp

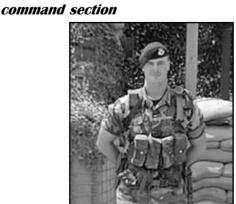
Staff Sgt.

Brett Baxter

NCO category



Top Performer



Look Sharp

Airman 1st Class

Darren Helwig

Airman category



June 27, 1997 Page 4 The Tuzla Times

Support for flood victims continues

Air Force people, both military and civilian, came out in full force supporting the flood victims of Grand Forks, N.D.

Through volunteer efforts and donations, Air Force people made a difference in the lives of other Air Force members and the Grand Forks community in a time of need.

Air Force Family Support Centers were at the heart of the effort. A team of 12 family support volunteers from all over the country formed to relieve Grand Forks Air Force Base FSC people. The Grand Forks FSC chief temporarily moved into the "Airman's Attic" to be available at all times.

The Air Mobility Command headquarters family matters staff coordinated the volunteer efforts and donations to alleviate the workload on the local family support center staff. The staff was inundated with phone calls and e-mails requesting information on what to send and where. Donations included food, clothing and potable water.

The Grand Forks AFB Chaplain's Fund accepted monetary donations. This fund was set up for quick assistance to the military families impacted by the flood. So far, more than \$134,000 has been distributed through this fund.

The Air Force Aid Society provided financial assistance to both active-duty members and retirees. More than \$1.1 million in charitable contributions made throughout the year to assist Air Force members in emergency situations were awarded to military families in the Grand Forks area. To speed the processing of claims, local Air Force Aid Society offices were given the temporary authority to award loans and grants in higher amounts than usual to help meet the needs of our families.

The combined efforts of everyone who so graciously donated their time, money and materials, and those who coordinated the volunteer efforts, exhibited the support Air Force people provide to one another.





Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

The winning team, made up of (first row) Senior Airman Hector Contreras, Senior Airman Terri Greybeal, Master Sgt. Bill Cape, Tech. Sgt. Reiner Gotz; (middle row) Staff Sgt. Chris Blair, Tech. Sgt. Preston Jackson, Capt. Brian Elbert, Senior Airman Gregg Avery; (back row) Master Sgt. William Stinebaugh, Staff Sgt. Trisha Paff, Staff Sgt. Lance Domzalski and Tech. Sgt. Andy Havard, poured more than 18,000 pounds of sand into sandbags.

Air field ops takes first place in sandbag filling

by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

401st Expeditionary Air Base Group
Public Affairs

Hot, sweaty and dirty.

Those three words accurately described the participants in the 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group Sandbag Competition, which took place Saturday and Sunday on Charlie Ramp.

After the two-day competition, which tasked teams from across the group to build as many sandbags as possible in one hour, the air field operations flight came out on top with more than 18,700 pounds.

Also competing were the civil engineers with 17,750 pounds; command staff with 17,150 pounds; security police with 15,150 pounds; aeromedical flight with 13,750 pounds; and communications flight with 13,000 pounds.

According to Col. Kenneth A. Byrd, 401st EABG commander, the effort produced almost 48 tons of sandbags in about 2,000 bags.

The sandbags will be used to protect the newly-built bunkers in Tuzla Air Force Village and on Charlie Ramp. The original goal was to eventually fill more than 5,000 sandbags per bunker.

"That may change as Air Force officials look at other ways to protect the bunkers," said Maj. Ricard Smith, 401st EABG vice commander.

But for now, the air traffic controllers, radar approach controllers and base operations can claim to be the best sandbag fillers in Air Force Country.

"We were born to bag sand," said Master Sgt. Bill Cape, who works at the radar approach control site.

Master Sgt. William Stinebaugh, who works in the tower, agreed.

"Some units talk about 'getting some'," he joked, "we're doing it."

According to Capt. Brian Elbert, air field operations flight chief, the team's goodnature, which helped them win the competition hasn't let them lose site of the reason they were there.

"If we wanted to lose, we would have joined another flight," he said, "but, really, we were all there to support the group and get the job done."

Although the team will receive some sort of prize for their efforts, the winnings have not yet been determined.

Before leaving

Anyone who has been in country for 30 days or more must accomplish medical screening no earlier than two weeks before their expected rotation out.

The purpose of medical screening is to evaluate for potential post traumatic stress syndrome and to obtain a sample of blood. The blood sample is spun down and the serum is taken, frozen and placed in a bank.

Anyone who has been exposed to a disease while in the area of responsibility will begin to develop antibodies even if they do not develop the disease.

These anitbodies will be in the serum.

If, later on in life, people start to develop a disease they ordinarily would not have, the serum sample can be retrieved and analyzed for the specific antibodies. This has come about due to the Gulf War Syndrome.

The screening is Department of Defense directed and 100 percent compliance is mandatory.

If someone is unable to attend the scheduled screening, they must stop by the Mobile Air Staging Facility to have a nurse or technician help them.

The next screening will be held July 10 at the MASF tent.

For more information call 762-8027.

Equal list

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) — The latest Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing of available overseas-returnee enlisted assignments becomes available at military personnel flights and on the Air Force Personnel Center's World Wide Web home page July 15.

This list includes assignments for people eligible to return from overseas in November through January.

Personnel officials recommend assignment preferences be updated by July 29 to ensure the information is updated in the computer system before actual assignments are made. Assignments will be released around Sept. 1, say AFPC officials.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements, by Air Force Specialty Code and rank, and gives people a chance to update their assignment preferences to more realistically match vacancies being filled in a particular cycle.

Local military personnel flights offer a publication titled, "Enlisted Overseas Re-

The big picture



Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Westco

Maj. Ricard Smith (left), 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group vice commander, looks on as Col. Kenneth A. Byrd, group commander, and Mary Lou McHugh, assistant deputy under secretary for defense, discuss some of the recent improvements made on Tuzla Air Base during McHugh's visit June 19.

turnee Counseling Handout" that explains how to use EQUAL.

New listings are released quarterly for assignments available at overseas locations plus assignments available for those returning from overseas areas. All specialduty assignments appear on EQUAL-Plus and are updated weekly.

Military personnel flights and commanders support staff offices have copies of the listings and can help people update their preferences. People who are on temporary duty during the advertising period should contact the nearest personnel office for assistance.

People can access the AFPC home page using the address http://www.afpc.af.mil; then click on the highlighted "assignments" text

Assignment information is also available through the Air Force's home page at http://www.af.mil; then click on the "careers" icon.

Report released

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFNS) — The Air Force released the aircraft accident re-investigation report June 19 on the F-16D/C-130E midair collision at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., March 23, 1994. After the F-16 pilot ejected, the aircraft crashed into a staging area at Pope, killing twenty-four Army personnel and injuring more than 100 soldiers and civilians on the ground. The C-130 landed safely.

The original investigation found there were multiple causes for the midair collision, the majority of which occurred in air traffic control.

One contributing factor was that the F-16 pilot did not "see and avoid" and stay "well clear" of the C-130 as required by regulation. This was mitigated, however, by the pilot's statement that he could not see the C-130.

The Department of Defense Inspector General's review of the original report confirmed that air traffic control was a major factor in the accident; however, it also concluded that the report failed to adequately inquire into the actions of the F-16 pilot.

The Secretary of the Air Force directed a further investigation into this issue.

The new investigation team looked at all the issues considered mitigating factors for the F-16 pilot. They confirmed that the flight paths of his aircraft and the C-130 made it impossible for him to see the C-130 for all but 12 seconds after he started a simulated flame-out maneuver and that during that 12 seconds, the camouflage-painted C-130 was nearly impossible to see against the forested terrain.

The investigation team found that the F-16 pilot received confusing tower transmissions. Also, after he heard the call, "C-130 traffic short final on the go," he had 17 to 20 seconds (excluding reaction time) to have made adjustments to his flight path; however, immediately following this transmission, he was cleared to land by the air traffic controllers.

QUESTION

Continued from Page 2

becues, who does it apply to and what is the reasoning behind it?

Thank you for taking the time to read this. Many of us are searching for answers and some guidance.

Good question. We seem to have a lot of interest in this one. What we have covered in our weekly staff meeting is the need to have a standard policy for where we can have our cook outs and under what conditions. We have never said that cook outs must be discontinued.

Here is the policy that we are currently working and will publish with our policy letters:

- 1. The MWR area (Rock City to include the Fire Station) and the deck area behind TA/Ramp (on Charlie Ramp) are the only authorized Barbecue/Cook Out areas for the 401 EABG units. Barbecues on Charlie Ramp are not authorized until after the last fixed wing operation of the day.
- 2. Special consideration will be given to the appearance and conduct of personnel when other service soldiers are in the area or have the potential of being in the area. PT gear, in good taste, may be worn on Charlie Ramp during the barbecues after the last fixed wing operations of the day.
- 3. For unit or private barbecues in the MWR area, contact the First Sergeant to reserve the area.

Thanks for your question. I hope that this will clear up the confusion.

Dress and appearance tip of the week:

Phase-out date for the aircrew style name patch on the battle dress uniform is Oct. 1, 1997.

News

Air Force releases records on early N.M. experiments

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — The Air Force released its second report June 24 on what has become known as the "Roswell Incident."

This report, "The Roswell Report: Case Closed," together with the one issued in September 1994, "The Roswell Report: Fact Versus Fiction in the New Mexico Desert," explains and demystifies events that occurred in New Mexico nearly 50 years ago.

During the 1940s and 1950s, the Air Force engaged in extensive high-altitude balloon experimentation.

Some of the experiments involved using the balloons to carry and eject anthropomorphic dummies equipped with parachutes in order to learn how best to return pilots or astronauts to earth if they had to eject from high altitudes.

These experiments, as well as others described and explained in the report, including the 1947 crash of a balloon, correspond to many of the occurrences ob-

served by local residents and later characterized as the "Roswell Incident."

This latest report is noteworthy for the extensive background it provides on the scope of the Air Force activities in the vicinity of Roswell, N.M., beginning in the mid-1940s and extending through the early 1960s.

"This is singularly the most exhaustive release of information on this subject," said Secretary of the Air Force Sheila Widnall. "In 1994, we made all records on this subject publicly available.

This additional information will enlighten people about pioneer research and the challenging and often heroic work of Air Force personnel during those early years."

The 230-page report can be obtained through the Government Printing Office World Wide Web site, http://www.access.gpo.gov/index.html, or by calling (202) 512-1800.

Problem may effect pay

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (ACCNS) —The Defense Accounting and Finance Center in Denver is experiencing software problems in stopping and correcting Hostile Fire Pay and Combat Zone Tax Exclusion transactions.

The systems problem affects people who have recently returned from a regular or temporary duty assignment in an overseas area that entitled them to the special pays.

According to the Air Combat Command Finance Office, some people may be overpaid, requiring subsequent collection action. DFAS is currently in the process of resolving this problem.

When the computer system is fixed, members who are affected can expect to have a one-time deduction for taxes and an indebtedness established on their pay record.

The HFP overpayment — \$150 per month — will be annotated as an "advance debt" on the June leave and earning statement

ACC's Finance Office expects the system to be fixed soon, but asks members to monitor their pay closely to preclude potential under- or over-payments.

Are you from Mississippi? South Carolina?
Ohio? Tennessee? Nebraska? Senators
from these states will visit Tuzla over the
July 4th weekend and would like to talk to
you. Contact Senior Airman Jennifer
Westcott at 762-8005 for details.

June picnic honors 101 critical days

The June picnic sported water fights and volleyball tournaments Sunday after a noon Commander's Call.

Water fights took place shortly after the Commander's Call ended when Col. Kenneth A. Byrd, 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group commander, stumbled across a trash can filled with water balloons. Shortly after, water guns were unholstered and the war to soak all had begun.

Meanwhile, a four-on-four double elimination volleyball tournament took place, with Special Agent Rodney "Ranger" Walker, Staff Sgt. Steve "Con-Man" Burton, Senior Airman Brian "B-Sharp" Sharp and Airman Andrew "Tool-Man" Tooley taking the title, loosing only the first game in the final match.

The next picnic will be held July 4.



Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

Master Sgt. William Stinebaugh, air traffic control, fires on an enemy, while Master Sgt. Ken Goetze, first sergeant, tries to stay dry.



Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

Special Agent Rodney Walker (second from left) waits for a chance to send the ball over the net during the final volleyball match.



Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

(above) Staff Sgt. Steve Burton, contracting, attacks un-suspecting volleyball fans. (below) Maj. Ricard Smith (left), vice commander, and Col. Kenneth A. Byrd, commander, let their true selves show.



Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

2nd Lt. Mike Brown, intelligence officer, finds out no one is safe from ambush during the water fights.



Around Tuzla

Now playing "Blue Steel" will play Saturday at 7:30

p.m. in the movie tent, Tent No. 3 in Rock City.

Worship service

A protestant worship service will be held Saturdays in Rock City's Tent No. 8 at 7 p.m.

For more information contact Chaplain (Capt.) Robert O'Dell at 762-8089.

Bible study

A bible study group will meet Mondays and Wednesdays in the chaplain's office near Rock City.

For more information contact Chaplain (Capt.) Robert O'Dell at 762-8089.

T-shirts

4100th Group (Provisional) T-shirts are still available for sale at the fire department and public affairs office.

Shirts cost \$8 for a large or extra-large and \$10 for double- or triple-X sizes.

Movies

The American Red Cross and 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group video libraries are missing movies.

Anyone who has movies belonging to either organization is asked to return them immediately.

Study material

New Performance Fitness Examination books are availble for checkout from Tech. Sgt. Carliest Daniels, group information manager.

100 copies of Volume 1 are available, while 25 copies are Volume 2 can be checked out.

Sort it out



Photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott

Tech. Sgt. Brad Walker sorts mail at the postal tent, located next to the base post office. Starting this week, unit mail representatives with a valid DD Form 285 (Unit Mail Card) on file will be allowed to pick up mail for their section, but people assigned to the postal flight will no longer be delivering it. Unit mail can be picked up between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. or from 6 to 8 p.m.

Tent rosters

Tent rosters must be updated anytime a person moves in or out of a tent.

Copies should be posted on each door and one should be given to Tech. Sgt. Carliest Daniels, group information manager.

Hometown

People who's hometowns are St. Louis, Mo.; Minneapolis or Topeka, Kan. should contact Senior Airman Jennifer Westcott at 762-8005.

Media representatives from these areas For details, contact Daniels at 762-8003. will be in Tuzla July 14 though 19.

Birthday Call

Happy birthday to the following 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group members who have birthdays this week.

Today

Airman 1st Class Shannon Cruz Saturday

Airman 1st Class Gary Smith Sunday

Staff Sgt. Bradley Hartel **Tuesday**

Staff Sgt. Michael Burns II

Wednesday

Staff Sgt. John Robbins Staff Sgt. Donald Tubbs

Chaplain's thought of the week:

"Be careful of your thoughts, they may become words."

Unknown

Sortie Scoreboard

Scheduled: 6,376 Total flown: 5.407 Passengers: 50,685 Cargo (short tons): 32,425 Vehicles: 1.364 940 Patients evac'd:

As of Tuesday